

Response to Office Action of 2/8/2006
Application No. 10/039,892
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Attorney Docket: PX-03-2

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REMARKS

AUG 08 2006

Applicant appreciates the time taken by the Examiner to carefully review Applicant's present application. At the time of the Office Action mailed February 8, 2006, Claims 1-4, 15-42 and 52-54 were pending in this Application. Claims 1, 4, 15-23, 25-42, 52 and 53 were rejected. Claim 54 was allowed. Claim 24 was objected to. Claims 1 and 54 have been amended. Claim 24 has been cancelled. New Claims 55-71 (including new Independent Claim 63) have been added to further define various features of Applicant's invention. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 24 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base Claim but would be allowable if rewritten. Applicant submits that the limitations of Claim 24 have been included in Independent Claim 1. Claim 24 has been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Independent Claim 1, and Claims 2-4, 15-42 and 52-53 have been placed in condition for allowance

Claim 54 was allowed. A minor amendment has been made to Claim 54 to correct a possible formality within the claim.

New Claims

New Claims 55-62, depending from Claim 54, have been added to further define various aspects of Applicant's invention. New Independent Claim 63 (and dependent Claims 64-71) have also been added to further define various aspects of Applicant's invention.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and §103

Claims 1-4, 15-18, 40-42, 52 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,647,856 to Eykmann. Claims 20-23 and 25-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Eykman in view of U.S. Patent 4,863,072 granted to Perler. As discussed above, Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include allowable subject matter, thereby obviating the present rejections. Applicants request reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections and full allowance of Claims 1-4, 15-18, 20-23, 25-27, 40-42, 52 and 53.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant has made a sincere effort to address all issues raised in the Office Action. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at the number listed below will be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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